

ALLOWANCE

Specification

1. Examiner notes that a preliminary amendment to the specification was submitted 15 June 2006. As noted in the remarks section of the preliminary amendment dated 15 June 2006, no new matter was entered.

The preliminary amendment dated 15 June 2006 has been entered, along with the amendment to the specification dated 30 April 2008.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 22-26 and 28-45 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art neither anticipates nor renders obvious the invention of independent claims 28 and 34. Applicant has amended the independent claims to incorporate allowable subject matter as discussed in Applicant's amendment dated 30 April 2008 and the office action dated 30 January 2008.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dana Ross whose telephone number is 571-272-4480. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bryant can be reached on 571-272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dana Ross/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3726